



STATE OF TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Andrew Johnson Tower, Ninth Floor
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0800
(615) 741-2633 (FAX) 741-5956
1-800-264-0904

COUNCILS COMMITTEE

Board of Education Conference Room
Andrew Johnson Tower, Ninth Floor
Thursday, July 27, 2006
10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Joetta Yarbrow, Chair
Cindy Durham, TCCY Chair
Beverly Cosley
Michelle Crowley
Jerry Maness
Diane Neighbors
Sue Pilson
Colonel Robbins

Committee Members Absent

Sidney Bynum
Barbara Holden
Dana Lesley
Christy Little
James Scott

Staff Present

Linda O'Neal, Executive Director
Richard Kennedy, Field Director
Dana Cobb
Kathy Daniels
Marilyn Davis
Rodger Jowers
Robert Smith
Elaine Williams
Diane Wise
Gwendolyn Wright

I. Welcome and Introductions

Committee Chair Yarbrow convened the meeting at 10: 25 a.m.

There were no introductions.

II. Approval of May Minutes

MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (YARBRO) AND SECONDED (COSLEY) THAT THE MAY 2006 COMMITTEE MINUTES BE APPROVED. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

III. Announcement of Mid-Cumberland Coordinator

Kennedy announced April Swoner has accepted the Mid-Cumberland Regional Coordinator position. She will start on the 16th of August. Swoner visited the TCCY office before the committee meeting and had the opportunity to meet staff and a few Commission members. She will be formally introduced to the Commission members at the November meeting.

IV. Children's Advocacy Days (CAD) 2007

Kennedy reported there will be a change with the host hotel for Children's Advocacy Days 2007. The Downtown Sheraton will not provide rooms at the state rate. Therefore, the Legislative Reception will not be held at the Sheraton. Faye Mangrum worked very diligently to secure rooms at The Regal Maxwell House and they will honor the state rate for lodging. The Legislative Reception location is the larger change due to the Sheraton's proximity to Legislative Plaza and the War Memorial Building. Kennedy welcomed all suggestions and alternatives. Many were given and he will research the locations.

Kennedy reported the War Memorial Auditorium has been reserved for March 13-14 for Children's Advocacy Days 2007. No theme for the event has been determined at this time.

V. Definitions for Council Activities

Kennedy presented a list of definitions to all present. The Regional Coordinators will use this list to communicate consistently in their report language and use the terminology when specific events are described. This should assist Commission members in having a full understanding of the Coordinators' and the council's activities. Yarbrow interjected that the definitions will help Coordinators to better categorize activities.

VI. Review of Regional Coordinators' Activities

Information regarding the individual councils and coordinator activities was presented by Gwendolyn Wright, Memphis/Shelby County; Elaine Williams, South Central; Diane Wise, Northeast; Robert Smith, East Tennessee; Kathy Daniels, Upper Cumberland; Dana Cobb, Northwest and Rodger Jowers, Southwest. The Mid-Cumberland council position has been vacant, therefore, no verbal report was available. Due to her retirement, this Commission meeting will be the last for Marilyn Davis, Southeast Tennessee. Therefore, she will present her report to the full Commission. Each of the reports included council activities that have occurred since the last meeting of the Commission, as well as information about special projects and upcoming council meetings and events. All councils, including Mid-Cumberland, have detailed reports that were emailed to Commission members prior to the meeting. Chair Yarbrow and Maness spoke briefly about the grants and their integration into the regions and councils.

Marilyn Davis, Southeast Regional Coordinator is retiring on September 28th after 20 years with the Commission and 28 years with the State. We want to extend our appreciation for her outstanding dedication and performance and wish her the best in her retirement.

VII. Council/Coordinator Discussion

Chair Yarbrow announced Kennedy had brought KIDS COUNT books, which were not available at the last meeting, for those who would like them.

Chair Yarbrow reported the new monitoring responsibilities all Regional Coordinators will share and asked Kennedy to go into more detail.

Kennedy reported that due to cuts in Federal funding, Dick Brewster and Dannie Epstein, will be leaving TCCY by the end of August. They have been responsible for monitoring each grant that is awarded by TCCY. The Department of Finance and Administration's Policy #22 prohibits those that provide technical assistance and support for grantees from monitoring grant accountability. Therefore, the Juvenile Justice staff cannot monitor. Historically, the coordinators have been responsible for monitoring grantees in their regions. This will be a great opportunity for continued networking and program accountability.

The Regional Coordinators will now have the additional responsibility of monitoring in regions adjacent to their own regions. Jim Ford, Debrah Stafford and Richard Kennedy will meet with Finance and Administration regarding the reality of what the change in monitoring will include.

VIII. Other Business

There was no new business.

The meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Minutes Submitted by:

Richard Kennedy
Director of Field Operations

Minutes Approved by:

Joetta Yarbrow
Councils Committee Chair